



INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS of St. Margaret Mary Altar Society will take place Wednesday at the Parish Hall in Lomita. Pictured are (l-r) Mmes. Harry C. Kerstan, Leo Julian, Leo Salisbury, John B. View, Richard Haggood and Frank Covey.

Women

RONNIE SAUNDERS, Society Editor

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Exchange Student Explains Customs

By LINDA TAKA

Christmas vacation is over, but for Ari Blanco, North High's foreign exchange student from Spain, many of the season's festivities just would be beginning if she was home.

Unlike the American tradition of receiving gifts on December 24 and 25, Spanish children get presents in January.

"Instead of Santa Claus bringing the presents to our children, in Spain, the Three Kings from the Orient give out gifts today (Epiphany

Sunday), which is the day they arrived in Bethlehem, long ago," Ari explained.

Many of Spain's Christmas traditions are similar to ours. They celebrate Christmas Eve with the "Big Cabalcaade," which is actually much like our Christmas parade, though the central attraction is changed from jolly ol' Saint Nick to the Three Kings riding on floats, followed by their many servants and horses loaded with boxes of presents — all supposedly coming from the King's long journey.

The Spanish custom of putting shoes in the hallway runs along the same line as hanging up stockings, except for one thing — most Spanish children know what they are getting, because they accompany their parents and pick out what they want.

One custom we differ entirely in is the buying of gifts. In Spain only parents buy presents this saves money for the younger set, but they miss the fun of going shopping by themselves.

This year, Ari spent her first Christmas in America with Mr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Wolf and their daughter Pat, a junior at North High, at 2406 W. 177th St., Torrance. It was quite an interesting and different kind of Yuletide celebration from four brothers, Juan, Rapel, Francisco, and Sergis, spent in Spain.

How does it differ in Spain? is one of the most frequently asked question of Ari, no matter whether it's fashion, schools, or customs.

She said that Christmas, Eve is called "LaNoche Buena," the Good Night, and that in Spain they have a big supper which begins at 10 o'clock. Afterwards, the family and relatives sing Christmas songs in front of the "Nacimiento," the nativity scene placed on a table.

Christmas Day usually is celebrated by a big dinner of turkey and all the trim-

mings plus the special desert and drink, turrón and champagne.

It seems all they do during the holiday is eat. On "La Noche Vieja," the Old Night, December 31, another supper is given. It is not unusual to have so many feasts, that they eat four times a day.

On the last night of the year firecrackers light the sky as the New Year rolls in noisily. Small rockets filled with candies are set off in the houses. Parties also celebrate the beginning of another year.

It's at this time that we in Torrance usually make resolutions to make the New Year a better one than the last. In Spain, twelve grapes are given which are eaten one by one at every stroke of the clock. If they can do it, and according to Ari, few can, they are supposed to have good luck for the new year. But as Ari puts it, "It's just a custom!"

WHAT IS CHRISTMAS
Victor PTA held its annual Christmas concert and business meeting in the school auditorium.

Christmas songs were presented by the school orchestra under the direction of Mr. Quinon. Mr. Johnston's class presented "What Is Christmas" in song and choral verse.

Miss Mary Bulch directed a rendition of Christmas folk songs by the girls' choir. During the short business meeting which followed, Mrs. Schuyler Gardiner, Mrs. Robert Newcomer, and Mrs. Clifford Lilla were nominated to the committee for honorary life membership.

UPSY DOWNSY

The bully assuaulted
A meek little squirt.
Who was, he discovered,
A judo expert!
—Good Housekeeping Magazine

Newlyweds Return From Monterey Trip

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church was the setting for the marriage of Dolores Lorene Turner to Charles L. Rodgers Saturday afternoon, Dec. 29.

The double-ring ceremony was performed by Rev. Sylvester Radloff.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Warren Flowers of 22013 Ocean Ave., Torrance. Parents of the bridegroom are Mr. and Mrs. Harold Rodgers of 2418 Ralston Lane, Redondo Beach.

Poinsettias decorated the sanctuary for the 2:30 p.m. ceremony.

For her wedding the bride chose a white gown of chantilly lace and candlelight silk organza with a sapphire neckline embroidered with sequins and pearls.

Mrs. Gene Vander Bloeg, matron of honor, was dressed in a royal blue satin gown. Cathy Dee Webb, flower girl, wore a white dress with a red sash, and red veil.

Bridesmaids were Mmes.

Larry Dinske, Steve Schmidt and Ray Buyers. They were attired in red dresses and shoes with red veils and white gloves.

The bride's mother chose a turquoise ensemble and the bridegroom's mother wore beige with pink.

Gene Vanderploeg was best man and Ricky Vanderploeg ring bearer. Ushers were Steve Schmidt, Glen Adam, and Floyd Stevens.

Following a honeymoon in Monterey, the newlyweds are at home at 1454 W. 227th St., Torrance.

An employe of Broadway, Del Amo, the bride is a graduate of Narbonne High School and Flavia College of Beauty. The bridegroom attended Moltonvale Rural High School and Kansas State University.

VISITS HERE

Edgar Polin of Lincoln, Neb. is spending the winter with his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Shively.

Altar Society Installs

Mrs. John B. View will be installed as president of the St. Margaret Mary Altar Society at a meeting to be held at 8 p.m. Wednesday at the parish hall in Lomita.

Installing officer will be Mrs. Harry C. Kerstan, Jr. Officers to be inducted include: Mmes. Leo Salisbury, vice president; Leo Julian, secretary; Frank Covey, financial secretary; Richard Haggood, treasurer; and Kirsten, publicity chairman.

Guest speaker will be Rev. Father John V. Hegarty, pastor of St. Margaret Mary Parish. Hostesses will be members of Our Lady of Fatima and Sacred Heart Guilds.

Outgoing officers include: Mmes. Rico D'Ambrosi, president; View, vice president; and Paul Pettit, secretary; Albert Hernandez financial secretary; George Ciganovich, treasurer and Dan Kimball, publicity chairman.

Couple Plights Troth

Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Zuanich of 1656 W. 252nd St., Harbor City announce the engagement of their daughter, Mary Gertrude, to Jesus Jesse Gutierrez, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gutierrez of 1034 W. 227th St., Torrance.

A June graduate of Narbonne High School, the bride-to-be is a student at Harbor College where she is majoring in elementary education.

The bridegroom-elect is a scholarship student at Chouinard Art Institute.

The wedding has been set for Sept. 7 at Torrance Community Baptist Church.

Auxiliary To Elect Officers

Torrance Barracks 1120, World War I Veterans Ladies Auxiliary will elect officers at a meeting to be held at 8 p.m. tomorrow at the American Legion Hall.

Auxiliary members entertained barracks members recently at a Christmas party in the Legion hall. A gift exchange and entertainment were featured.

Wives, widows, mothers, daughters and sisters of veterans are invited to join the auxiliary. Meetings are held the first and third Monday of each month. The first meeting is devoted to business, and a social meeting is featured at the second.



CONSENSUS will be reached regarding the state's role in local government at meetings of the Provisional League of Women Voters of Torrance Wednesday morning and Thursday evening. Determinations will be based on results of a two-year study. Participating will be Mrs. E. C. Knapp, left, membership chairman, and Mrs. Howard Foote, right.



TEACHING CHARM to teen-agers is YWCA director Carol Wood. Course is one of winter series which gets under way at the Y tomorrow. Classes for adults include bridge, use of knitting machines, "stork club" for expectant mothers, and split-second "change of pace" luncheons for career girls. Pictured practicing pointers on poise are (l-r) Martha Plonsky, 12; Lee Jones, 11, and Sherry McCulley, 12.



MRS. CHARLES L. RODGERS
... former Dolores Turner

(Photo by Seeman)